Comes like a ruſhing lion, *couch* like ſpaniels,
With lolling tongues, and tremble at the paw. *Dryden.*

3. To lye down in ſecret, or in ambuſh.
We'll *couch* i' th' caſtle-ditch, 'till we ſee the light of our fairies. *Shakeſpeare's Merry Wives of Windſor.*
The earl of Angus *couched* in a furrow, and was paſſed over for dead, until a horſe was brought for his eſcape. *Hayward.*

4. To lye in a bed, or ſtratum.
Bleſſed of the Lord be his land for the dew, and for the deep that *coucheth* beneath. *Deutr.* xxxiii. 13.

5. To ſtoop; or bend down; to lower in fear, in pain, in reſpect.
To *couch* down between Iſſachar, is a ſtrong aſs *couching* down between two burdens. *Gen.* xlix. 14.
Theſe *couchings*, and theſe lowly curteſies,
Might ſtir the blood of ordinary men. *Shakeſp. Jul. Cæſar.*

To COUCH. *v. a.*

1. To repoſe; to lay on a place of repoſe.
Where unbruiſed youth, with unſtuff'd brain,
Doth *couch* his limbs, there golden ſleep doth reign. *Shakeſp.*

2. To lay down any thing in a bed, or ſtratum.
If the weather be warm, we immediately *couch* malt about a foot thick; but if a hotter ſeaſon require it, we ſpread it on the floor much thinner. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*
The ſea and the land make one globe; and the waters *couch* themſelves, as cloſe as may be, to the centre of this globe, in a ſpherical convexity. *Burnet's Theory of the Earth.*

3. To bed; to hide in another body.
It is at this day in uſe at Gaza, to *couch* potſherds, or veſſels of earth, in their walls, to gather the wind from the top, and to paſs it down in ſpouts into rooms. *Bacon's Nat. Hiſtory.*

4. To involve; to include; to compriſe.
But who will call thoſe noble who deface,
By meaner acts, the glories of their race;
Whoſe only title to our father's fame,
Is *couch'd* in the dead letters of their name? *Dryden's Juv.*
That great argument for a future ſtate, which St. Paul hath *couched* in the words I have read to you. *Atterbury's Sermons.*

5. To include ſecretly; to hide: with *under*.
The foundation of all parables is ſome analogy or ſimilitude between the topical or alluſive part of the parable and the thing *couched under* it, and intended by it. *South's Sermons.*
There is all this, and more, that lies naturally *couched under* this allegory. *L'Eſtrange, Fable* 3.
The true notion of the inſtitution being loſt, the tradition of the deluge, which was *couched under* it, was thereupon at length ſuſpended and loſt. *Woodward's Natural Hiſtory.*

6. To lay cloſe to another.
And over all, with brazen ſcales was arm'd,
Like plated coat of ſteel, ſo *couched* near,
That nought might pierce. *Fairy Queen, b.* i. *cant.* 11.

7. To fix the ſpear in the reſt; in the poſture of attack.
The knight 'gan fairly *couch* his ſteady ſpear,
And fiercely ran at him with rigorous might. *Fairy Queen.*
Before each van
Prick forth the aery knights, and *couch* their ſpears,
'Till thickeſt legions cloſe. *Milton's Paradiſe Loſt, b.* ii.
The former wav'd in air
His flaming ſword, Æneas *couch'd* his ſpear. *Dryden's Æn.*

8. To depreſs the film that overſpreads the pupil of the eye. This is improperly called *couching the eye*, for *couching the cataract*: with equal impropriety they ſometimes ſpeak of *couching the patient*.
Some artiſt, whoſe nice hand
Couches the cataracts, and clears his eyes,
And all at once a flood of glorious light
Comes ruſhing on his eyes. *Dennis.*
Whether the cataract be wafted by being ſeparated from its veſſels, I have never known poſitively, by diſſecting one that had been *couched*. *Sharp.*

COUCH. *n. ſ.* [from the verb.]

1. A ſeat of repoſe, on which it is common to lye down dreſſed.
So Satan fell; and ſtraight a firy globe
Of angels on full ſail of wing flew nigh,
Who on their plumy vans receiv'd him ſoft,
From his uneaſy ſtation, and upbore
As on a floating *couch* through the blithe air. *Milt. Par. Reg.*
To loll on *couches*, rich with citron ſteds,
And lay their guilty limbs in Tyrian beds. *Dryd. Virg. Geo.*

2. A bed; a place of repoſe.
Let not the royal bed of Denmark be
A *couch* for luxury and damned inceſt. *Shakeſp. Hamlet.*
Dire was the toſſing! deep the groans! deſpair
Tended the ſick, buſieſt from *couch* to *couch*. *Milt. Pa. Loſt.*
This gentle knight, inſpir'd by jolly May,
Forſook his early *couch* at early day. *Dryden's Fables.*
O, ye immortal pow'rs that guard the juſt,
Watch round his *couch*, and ſoften his repoſe. *Addiſ. Cato.*

3. A layer, or ſtratum.
This heap is called by maltſters a *couch*, or bed of raw malt. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*

Co'UCHANT. *adj.* [*couchant*, Fr.] Lying down; ſquatting.
If a lion were the proper coat of Judah, yet were it not probably a lion rampant, but rather *couchant* or dormant. *Brown's Vulgar Errours, b.* v. *c.* 10.
As a tiger, who by chance hath ſpy'd,
In ſome purlieu, two gentle fawns at play,
Strait couches cloſe; then riſing, changes oft
His *couchant* watch. *Milton's Paradiſe Loſt, b.* iv. *l.* 403.

COUCHEE. n. ſ. [French.] Bedtime; the time of viſiting late at night.
None of her ſylvan ſubjects made their court;
Levees and *couchees* paſs'd without reſort. *Dryden.*

Co'UCHER. *n. ſ.* [from *couch*.] He that couches or depreſſes cataracts.

Co'UCHFELLOW. *n. ſ.* [*couch* and *fellow*.] Bedfellow; companion.
I have grated upon my good friends for three reprieves for you, and your *couchfellow*, Nim; or elſe you had looked through the grate like a geminy of baboons. *Shakeſpeare.*

Co'UCHGRASS. *n. ſ.* A weed.
The *couchgraſs*, for the firſt year, inſenſibly robs moſt plants in ſandy grounds apt to graze. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*

COVE. *n. ſ.*

1. A ſmall creek or bay.
2. A ſhelter; a cover.

CO'VENANT. *n. ſ.* [*covenant*, Fr. *conventum*, Latin.]

1. A contract; a ſtipulation.
He makes a *covenant* never to deſtroy
The earth again by flood; nor let the ſea
Surpaſs his bounds. *Milton's Paradiſe Loſt, b.* xi. *l.* 892.
The Engliſh make the ocean their abode,
Whoſe ready ſails with ev'ry wind can fly,
And make a *cov'nant* with th' unconſtant ſky. *Waller.*

2. An agreement on certain terms; a compact.
A *covenant* is a mutual compact, as we now conſider it, betwixt God and man; conſiſting of mercies on God's part, made over to man, and of conditions on man's part, required by God. *Hammond's Pract. Catech.*
Some men live as if they had made a *covenant* with hell: let divines, fathers, friends ſay what they will, they ſtop their ears againſt them. *L'Eſtrange.*

3. A writing containing the terms of agreement.
I ſhall but lend my diamond 'till your return; let there be *covenants* drawn between us. *Shakeſpeare's Cymbeline.*

To CO'VENANT. *v. n.* [from the noun.]

1. To bargain; to ſtipulate.
His lord uſed commonly ſo to *covenant* with him, which if at any time the tenant diſliked, he might freely depart at his pleaſure. *Spenſer's State of Ireland.*
It had been *covenanted* between him and the king of England, that neither of them ſhould treat of peace or truce with the French king. *Hayward on Edward* VI.
By words men come to know one another's minds; by theſe they *covenant* and confederate. *South's Sermons.*
Jupiter *covenanted* with him, that it ſhould be hot or cold, wet or dry, calm or windy, as the tenant ſhould direct. *L'Eſt.*

2. To agree with another on certain terms: with *for*.
They *covenanted* with him *for* thirty pieces of ſilver. *Mat.*
Pointing to a heap of ſand,
For ev'ry grain to live a year demand;
But, ah! unmindful of th' effect of time,
Forgot to *covenant* for youth and prime. *Garth's Ovid.*

COVENANTE'E. *n. ſ.* [from *covenant*.] A party to a covenant; a ſtipulator; a bargainer.
Both of them were reſpective rites of their admiſſion into the ſeveral covenants, and the *covenantees* become thereby entitled to the reſpective privileges. *Ayliffe's Parergon.*

COVENA'NTER. *n. ſ.* [from *covenant*.] One who takes a covenant. A word introduced in the civil wars.
The *covenanters* ſhall have no more aſſurance of mutual aſſiſtance each from other, after the taking of the covenant, than they had before. *Oxford Reaſons againſt the Covenant.*

CO'VENOUS. *adj.* [from *covin*.] Fraudulent; colluſive; trickiſh.
I wiſh ſome means deviſed for the reſtraint of theſe inordinate and *covenous* leaſes of lands, holden in chief, for hundreds or thouſands of years. *Bacon's Eſſ. of Alienation.*

To CO'VER. *v. a.* [*couvrir*, French.]

1. To overſpread any thing with ſomething elſe.
The paſtures are cloathed with flocks, the valleys alſo are *covered* over with corn. *Pſ.* lxv. 13.
A man ought not to *cover* his head. 1 *Cor.* xi. 7.
Go to thy fellows, bid them *cover* the table, ſerve in the meat, and we will come in to dinner. *Shak. Merch. of Venice.*

2. To conceal under ſomething laid over.
Or lead me to ſome ſolitary place,
And *cover* my retreat from human race. *Dryd. Virg. Geor.*

3. To hide by ſuperficial appearances.

4. To overwhelm; to bury.
Raillery and wit ſerve only to *cover* nonſenſe with ſhame, when reaſon has firſt proved it to be mere nonſenſe. *Watts.*

5. To ſhelter; to conceal from harm.
Charity

Charity ſhall *cover* the multitude of ſins. 1 *Pet.* iv. 8.

6. To incubate; to brood on.
Natural hiſtorians obſerve, that only the male birds have voices; that their ſongs begin a little before breeding-time, and end a little after; that whilſt the hen is *covering* her eggs, the male generally takes his ſtand upon a neighbouring bough within her hearing, and by that means amuſes and diverts her with his ſongs during the whole time of her ſitting. *Add. Spect.*

7. To copulate with a female.

8. To wear the hat, or garment of the head, as a mark of ſuperiority.
That king had conferred the honour of grandee upon him, which was of no other advantage or ſignification to him, than to be *covered* in the preſence of that king. *Dryd. Dedicat. Æn.*

Co'VER. *n. ſ.* [from the verb.]

1. Any thing that is laid over another.
The fecundine is but a general *cover*, not ſhaped according to the parts, but the ſkin is ſhaped according to the parts. *Bacon's Natural Hiſtory*, N°. 732.
The fountains could be ſtrengthened no other way than by making a ſtrong *cover* or arch over them. *Burnet's Theory.*
Oreſtes' bulky rage,
Unſatisfy'd with margins cloſely writ,
Foams o'er the *covers*, and not finiſh'd yet. *Dryd. Juv. Sat.*
With your hand, or any other *cover*, you ſtop the veſſel, ſo as wholly to exclude the air. *Ray on the Creation.*

2. A concealment; a ſcreen; a veil; a ſuperficial appearance, under which ſomething is hidden.
The truth and reaſon of things may be artificially and effectually inſinuated, under the *cover* either of a real fact, or of a ſuppoſed one. *L'Eſtrange.*
As the ſpleen has great inconveniences, ſo the pretence of it is a handſome *cover* for imperfections. *Collier on the Spleen.*

3. Shelter; defence.
In the mean time, by being compelled to lodge in the field, which grew now to be very cold, whilſt his army was under *cover*, they might be forced to retire. *Clarendon, b.* viii.

COVER-SHAME. *n. ſ.* [*cover* and *ſhame*.] Some appearance uſed to conceal infamy.
Does he put on holy garments for a *cover-ſhame* of lewdneſs? *Dryden's Spaniſh Fryar.*

Co'VERING. *n. ſ.* [from *cover*.] Dreſs; veſture; any thing ſpread over another.
The women took and ſpread a *covering over* the well's mouth. 2 *Sam.* xvii. 19.
Bring ſome *covering* for this naked ſoul,
Whom I'll intreat to lead me. *Shakeſpeare's King Lear.*
Sometimes providence caſts things ſo, that truth and intereſt lie the ſame way; and when it is wrapt up in this *covering*, men can be content to follow it. *South.*
Then from the floor he rais'd a royal bed,
With *cov'rings* of Sidonian purple ſpread. *Dryden's Fables.*

Co'VERLET. *n. ſ.* [*couvrellet*, French.] The outermoſt of the bedcloaths; that under which all the reſt are concealed.
Lay her in lillies and in violets,
And ſilken curtains over her diſplay,
And odour'd ſheets, and arras *coverlets*. *Spenſer's Epithal.*
With ſilken curtains and gold *coverlets*,
Therein to ſhrowd her ſumptuous Bellamoure. *Fairy Queen.*
This done, the hoſt produc'd the genial bed,
Which with no coſtly *coverlet* they ſpread. *Dryden's Fables.*
The difficulties I was in, for want of a houſe and bed, being forced to lie on the ground, wrapt up in my *coverlet*. *Gulliver's Travels.*

Co'VERT. *n. ſ.* [from *cover*, *couvert*, French.]

1. A ſhelter; a defence.
Let mine outcaſts dwell with thee, Moab; be thou a *covert* to them from the face of the ſpoiler. *Iſaiah*, xvi. 4.
There ſhall be a tabernacle for a ſhadow in the day-time from the heat, and for a place of refuge, and for a *covert* from ſtorm and rain. *Iſ.* iv. 6.
They are by ſudden alarm, or watch-word, to be called out to their military motions, under ſky or *covert*, according to the ſeaſon, as was the Roman wont. *Milton on Education.*
It was the hour of night, when thus the Son
Commun'd in ſilent walk, then laid him down
Under the hoſpitable *covert* nigh
Of trees thick interwoven. *Milton's Paradiſe Loſt, b.* ii.
Now have a care your carnations catch not too much wet, therefore retire them to *covert*. *Evelyn's Kalendar.*

2. A thicket, or hiding place.
Tow'rds him I made; but he was 'ware of me,
And ſtole into the *covert* of the wood. *Shakeſ. Rom. and Jul.*
I ſhall be your faithful guide,
Through this gloomy *covert* wide. *Milton.*
Thence to the *coverts*, and the conſcious groves,
The ſcenes of his paſt triumphs and his loves. *Denham.*
Deep into ſome thick *covert* would I run,
Impenetrable to the ſtars or ſun. *Dryden's State of Innocence.*
The deer is lodg'd; I've track'd her to her *covert*:
Be ſure ye mind the word; and when I give it,
Ruſh in at once, and ſeize upon your prey. *Addiſ. Cato.*

Co'VERT. *adj.* [*couvert*, French.]

1. Sheltered; not open; not expoſed.
You are, of either ſide the green, to plant a *covert* alley; upon carpenter's work, about twelve foot in height, by which you may go in ſhade into the garden. *Bacon, Eſſay* 47.
The fox is a beaſt alſo very prejudicial to the huſbandman, eſpecially in places that are near foreſt-woods and *covert* places. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*
Together let us beat this ample field,
Try what the open, what the *covert* yield. *Pope's Eſſays.*

2. Secret; hidden; private; inſidious.
And let us preſently go ſit in council,
How *covert* matters may be beſt diſclos'd,
And open perils ſureſt anſwered. *Shakeſp. Julius Cæſar.*
By what beſt way,
Whether of open war, or *covert* guile,
We now debate. *Milton's Paradiſe Loſt, b.* ii. *l.* 41.

Co'VERT. *adj.* [*couvert*, French.] The ſtate of a woman ſheltered by marriage under her huſband; as *covert* baron, feme *covert*.
Inſtead of her being under *covert* baron, to be under *covert* feme myſelf; to have my body diſabled, and my head fortified. *Dryden's Spaniſh Fryar.*

COVERT-WAY. *n. ſ.* [from *covert* and *way*.]
It is, in fortification, a ſpace of ground level with the field, on the edge of the ditch, three or four fathom broad, ranging quite round the half moons, or other works toward the country. One of the greateſt difficulties in a ſiege is to make a lodgment on the *covert-way*, becauſe uſually the beſieged paliſade it along the middle, and undermine it on all ſides. It is ſometimes called the corridor, and ſometimes the counterſcarp, becauſe it is on the edge of the ſcarp. *Harris.*

Co'VERTLY. *adv.* [from *covert*.] Secretly; cloſely; in private; with privacy.
Yet ſtill Aragnol (ſo his foe was hight)
Lay lurking, *covertly* him to ſurpriſe. *Spenſer's Muiopotmos.*
How can'ſt thou croſs this marriage?
—Not honeſtly, my lord; but ſo *covertly*, that no diſhoneſty ſhall appear in me. *Shakeſp. Much ado about Nothing.*
Amongſt the poets, Perſius *covertly* ſtrikes at Nero; ſome of whoſe verſes he recites with ſcorn and indignation. *Dryden.*

Co'VERTNESS. *n. ſ.* [from *covert*.] Secrecy; privacy. *Dict.*

Co'VERTURE. *n. ſ.* [from *covert*.]

1. Shelter; defence; not expoſure.
It may be it is rather the ſhade, or other *coverture*, that they take liking in, than the virtue of the herb. *Bacon's Nat. Hiſt.*
He ſaw his guileful act
By Eve, though all unweeting, ſeconded
Upon her huſband; ſaw their ſhame that ſought
Vain *covertures*. *Milton's Paradiſe Loſt, b.* x. *l.* 337.
The winds being ſo fierce, and the weather ſo ſevere, as not to ſuffer any thing to proſper or thrive beyond the height of a ſhrub, in any of all thoſe iſlands, unleſs it be protected by walls; as in gardens, or other like *coverture*. *Woodward.*

2. In law.
The eſtate and condition of a married woman, who, by the laws of our realm, is in *poteſtate viri*, and therefore diſabled to contract with any, to the prejudice of herſelf or her huſband, without his allowance or confirmation. *Cowel.*
The infancy of king Edward VI. and the *coverture* of queen Mary, did, in fact, diſable them to accompliſh the conqueſt of Ireland. *Davies on Ireland.*

To CO'VET. *v. a.* [*convoiter*, French.]

1. To deſire inordinately; to deſire beyond due bounds.
If it be a ſin to *covet* honour,
I am the moſt offending man alive. *Shakeſpeare's Henry* V.
I am yet
Unknown to woman, never was forſworn,
Scarcely have *coveted* what was mine own,
At no time broke my faith. *Shakeſpeare's Macbeth.*
O father! can it be that ſouls ſublime,
Return to viſit our terreſtrial clime?
And that the gen'rous mind, releas'd by death,
Can *covet* lazy limbs and mortal breath? *Dryden's Æn.*

2. To deſire earneſtly.
But *covet* earneſtly the beſt gifts. 1 *Cor.* xii. 31.

To Co'VET. *v. n.* To have a ſtrong deſire.
The love of money is the root of all evil, which while ſome *coveted after*, they have erred from the faith. 1 *Tim.* vi.

Co'VETABLE. *adj.* [from *covet*.] To be wiſhed for; to be coveted. *Dict.*

Co'VETISE. *n. ſ.* [*convoitiſe*, French.] Avarice; covetouſneſs of money.
Moſt wretched wight, whom nothing might ſuffice,
Whoſe greedy luſt did lack in greateſt ſtore;
Whoſe need had end, but no end *covetiſe*. *Fairy Queen, b.* i.

Co'VETOUS. *adj.* [*convoiteux*, French.]

1. Inordinately deſirous.
While cumber'd with my dropping cloaths I lay,
The cruel nation, *covetous* of prey,
Stain'd with my blood the unhoſpitable coaſt. *Dryden's Æn.*

2. Inordinately eager of money; avaricious.